Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

AID-05 EB-04 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01

OMB-01 CEA-01 IO-04 COME-00 FRB-01 XMB-02 /061 W 108481

O R 042125Z NOV 74 FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6274 INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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PASS TREASURY FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY JOHN BUSHNELL

E.O.11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN, BR

SUBJECT: BRAZIL'S BORROWING FROM THE IDB/FSO

- 1. MOST OF SATURDAY'S PAPERS (NOV 2) GAVE WIDE COVERAGE TO STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO JOHN BUSHNELL, US TREASURY, THAT USG WILL HENCEFORTH VOTE AGAINST IDB-FUND FOR SPECIAL OPERATIONS LOANS TO BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, MEXICO AND VENZUELA. THE REPORTS ARE FRAMED IN DRAMATIC LANGUAGE, WITH SOME PAPERS, CONFUSED OVER THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN ORDINARY CAPITAL LOANS AND FSO LENDING, IMPLYING THAT USG WAS GOING TO PREVENT FURTHER ACCESS BY THSE COUNTRIES TO THE IDB.
- 2. ALTHOUGH THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN UNOFFICIALLY AWARE OF DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON WITH REGARD TO WEANING OF THESE COUNTRIES FROM THE IDB/FSO, EMBASSY WAS UNAWARE THAT DECISION WAS IMMINENT, AND HAS RECEIVED NO OFFICIAL WORD THAT, IN FACT, SUCH DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN. EVEN IF BRAZILIAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON IDB BOARD HAS ALREADY BEEN OFFICIALLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOTIFIED OF US DECISION, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF

EMBASSY COULD DIRECTLY EXPLAIN US REASONING TO GOB; ALTERNATIVELY, THAT WE BE ABLE TO EXPLAIN STATUS OF THIS ISSUE.

- 3. WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE GIVE TO THE GOB AS FULL AN EXPLANATION OF ANY US DECISION AS POSSIBLE. IN THE PAST, WE HAVE JUSTIFIED, AT LEAST IN PART, PHASE-DOWN AND OUT OF USAID PROGRAM IN TERMS OF BRAZIL'S CONTINUED ACCESS WITH US SUPPORT TO THE IFI'S.
- 4. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE DETAILS OF BUSHNELL'S STATEMENT, FORUM IN WHICH IT WAS MADE, TOGETHER WITH SUPPORTING RATIONALE SO THAT WE CAN EXPLIAN US POSITION TO APPROPRIATE GOB OFFICIALS, AS WELL AS HANDLE PRESS INQUIRIES. AS PART OF EXPLANATION WE WOULD APPRECIATE AN ESTIMATE, IF SUCH IS AVAILABLE, OF WHAT THIS ACTION MEANS IN TERMS OF POTENTIAL LOSS OF IDB FUNDS FOR BRAZIL OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS. CRIMMINS

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